

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

~~The present invention provides an~~ An apparatus suitable for use in investigating multi-phase biological tissue histology ~~is disclosed, which~~ The apparatus comprises a trans-ductally deployable probe mounting a periodically displaceable body of at least one tactile sensing device, ~~said the periodically displaceable body having an excitation frequency bandwidth in the range of from 1Hz to 500 KHz, a maximum stroke length of less than 1 mm and a displacement force in the range from 0.01 N to 1 N; said displaceable body being provided with a~~ A displacement device ~~is included for having a displacement controller for controlling at least said excitation frequency; said displaceable body being and is~~ is included for having a displacement controller for controlling at least said excitation frequency, ~~said displaceable body being~~ and is coupled to a displacement monitoring device and a displacement force monitoring device[[,]] for monitoring the viscoelastic response of ~~said biological tissue to periodic compression by said the displacement force applied to said tissue by periodic displacement of the said-periodically displaceable body. The present invention also includes a~~ A method for producing a histological profile of a biological tissue adjacent a body duct, and a diagnostic method[[,]] using the apparatus of the invention are also included.